

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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Postal Regulatory Commission  
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Chairman Ruth Y. Goldway  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Dear Chairman Goldway,

I am writing to express my support for the appeal (A2011-80) filed by the Town of Simsbury, Connecticut and members of the Tariffville Village Association concerning the final determination of closure by the United States Postal Service (USPS) of the Tariffville Post Office Facility.

Throughout the public comment period, residents and elected officials in the town of Simsbury addressed the intrinsic value and importance of this post office to the community. This is a profitable post office location, with a rich history that serves as a community anchor. The Tariffville location was not previously placed under consideration for review by the USPS until a February snowstorm suspended services at its previous location on 39 Main Street due to concerns of structural damage to the building. This post office was closed and placed on the review list because of a significant snowfall rather than through a careful cost-benefit analysis.

I am also concerned that the USPS did not prominently display documents detailing the final determination decision for those affected customers. The final determination document was dated on August 9, 2011 and posted in the Simsbury post office in a less-than prominent location. The inadequacy of this notice and posting is borne out by the fact that most of the Simsbury residents and officials involved in the effort to save the Tariffville Post Office were not aware of the determination until they inquired of postal officials several weeks later.

In addition, our offices received notice from the USPS of this decision on August 26 2011. I believe residents of the area in which their post office is being consolidated or closed should be provided ample and adequate notice and opportunity to present their argument for appeal.

I understand the financial situation faced by United States Postal Service, and am willing and able to work with the Postal Regulatory Commission and the USPS to address this problem. Many of my colleagues and I have been advocating for the return of overpayments the Postal Service made into the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) and the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). This fair and commonsense action would put USPS back on the road to success, and would mitigate the need for massive post office closures as has recently been proposed. I urge you to give Congress the chance to act before prematurely closing down this post office which is so important to the community.

Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
September 9, 2011

Closing profitable and viable post office locations in Tariffville or in any community in Connecticut ultimately does a disservice to the residents and communities affected by these actions.

I request that the Commission make every possible effort to maintain a post office in Tariffville.  
Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Every best wish,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris', is written over the printed name.

Christopher S. Murphy